

After your student has read for 30 minutes please take time to talk to them about what they read. The following are some suggested questions to guide that discussion. If your student doesn't have the ability to discuss with someone at this time answer the questions in writing.

Kindergarten Reading Discussion Questions

Fiction

- Have you read a story like this before?
- Could this story be true? Why or why not?
- Where is the setting of this story?
- Who are all the characters in the story?
 - Tell me about each characters
 - How does the main character feel at the beginning, middle, and end of the story?
 - Does the main character have a problem? What is it? How is the problem solved?

(What is the solution?)

- What is the scariest, funniest, saddest, most interesting, or most funny part of the story?

Read it aloud.

- Do you like this story? Why or why not?
- Do you know any real people who are like the characters in this story?
 - Who are the people? How are they the same? How are they different?
- Has anything in your life happened that is similar to the things that happened in the story?
- Did anything in the story happen that has happened to you? Tell me about it.
- Why do you think the author chose the title for this story?
- Point out details in the pictures.
- Were there any words in the story you did not know?
- If you could talk with one of the characters in the story, which character would you choose and what would you talk about?

Nonfiction

- What was this book about?
- What did you know about this topic before you started reading it?
- What did you learn about this topic?
- What was the most interesting fact in this book?
- How can you use this information?
- Describe your favorite picture in the book.
- How could you explain this information to someone who hasn't read this book?

1st Grade Reading Questions:

1. Who is the main character?
2. What is the setting of the story?
3. What would you change about the story?
4. Who is talking in the story? How do you know?
5. Are there any words that confuse you? What are they?
6. How do the pictures in the story make you feel?
7. Would you be friends with any of the characters in this book? Who and why?
8. Why did the author write this?
9. Is this book fiction or nonfiction? How do you know?
10. What extra information did you learn from the illustrations?
11. Did you learn any new words from reading this?
12. What are the main events in this story?
13. Did this story have a problem or solution?
14. If the story did have a problem, how would you solve it?
15. When did this story take place?
16. Did any of the characters learn a moral in this story?
17. What would a different title for this book be?
18. Were there any facts in this book that you learned?
19. How are (character 1) and (character 2) alike? different?
20. What caused the main event to happen, give details?
21. What lesson did you learn from the story?
22. What are some of your favorite facts that you learned from the book?
23. Before reading the story, look at all of the illustrations. What do you think the story will be about?

2nd Grade Reading Discussion Questions

- ★ Is this book fiction or nonfiction?

Fiction

- ★ Who are the characters in this book?
- ★ Who are the main characters in this book?
- ★ Where does the story take place (setting)?
- ★ What is the problem in the story?
- ★ What is the solution to the problem in the story?
- ★ What was this story mainly about?
- ★ Did you like the story? Why or why not?
- ★ What was your favorite/least favorite part?

Nonfiction

- ★ What was this book mainly about?
- ★ Was it written to inform? Persuade? Describe?
- ★ What are 3 things you learned from this book?
- ★ Were there any maps, charts, or graphs in the book? If so, what did you learn from them?
- ★ Describe your favorite picture in the book.

Third Grade Reading Discussion Questions

Fiction

1. What were the character's like in the story?
2. Where did the story take place (setting)?
3. Was there a problem in the story? What was it? How was the problem solved?
4. What was your favorite part of the story? Why?
5. Did this story remind you of: another story? a movie? something in real life?
6. Would you recommend this story to a friend? Yes or no? Why?
7. Who was your favorite character? How would you describe them? Why did you like them?
8. Who was your least favorite character? How would you describe them? Why didn't you like them?
9. Could this story be true? Why or why not?
10. What is the scariest, funniest, saddest, most interesting, or most funny part of the story?
Read it aloud.
11. Did anything in the story happen that has happened to you?
12. Who is telling this story? Is there a narrator?
13. Why do you think the author chose the title for this story? How does it relate to the story?

Non-Fiction

1. Why do you think the author chose the title for this text? How does it relate to the text?
2. What is the main topic of the text? Is there a subtopic?
3. What are three things you learned from this reading?
4. Is there any new vocabulary in the reading? If so, what is it and do you know what it means?
5. Would you recommend this text to a friend? Why or why not?
6. After reading this text, is there anything you would want to know more about?

4th Grade Reading Discussion Questions

Fiction:

- **What is the author's purpose for writing this book?**
- **What connection do you have to the events happening?**
- **Who were the main characters of this book?**
- **How did the setting of this book help you understand what was going on?**
- **What was the main idea?**
- **Can you determine the theme of the story? Was there a moral or something learned?**

Non-Fiction:

- **What is the author's purpose for writing this book?**
- **What did you learn from reading this book?**
- **What facts did you find the most important?**
- **Were there any maps, tables, pictures that helped you better understand the information? Explain why they helped.**
- **How did the information help you better understand the topic?**

5th & 6th Grade Reading Discussion Questions

Pre- Reading

1. Before you start reading this book/story, what hints does the title give you as to what this book is going to be about?
2. Before reading this book/story today, what were your predictions about the characters or the plot?

During Reading

3. While you were reading today, what did you picture in your mind about the story?
4. Which character can you connect with the most in your book?
5. Which part of your book are you having the most difficulty understanding or connecting with?
6. What have you done that is similar to what the characters experience in your book?
7. How realistic is the plot of your book?
8. What issue in your book has caused you to think the most?
9. What kind of message does the author want the reader to get from this book/story?
10. What issue in your book is the most interesting? Upsetting? Familiar? Ridiculous? Confusing?
11. How does the setting of your book contribute to the mood of the story?
12. What are the problems the main character faces and how are they solved?
13. How do two of the characters in your book differ from each other?
14. Which character would you like to have as a friend and why?
15. How do the minor characters affect the main character?
16. What is the conflict the characters in your book experience and what are you learning about them through this conflict?

After Reading

17. How has this story changed your thinking?
18. How has this story supported your thinking? While you were reading, who did the characters remind you of and why?
19. What events and people caused the main character to change?
20. What motivated the main character's decisions?

Non-Fiction

21. What are five facts you learned?
22. What did you find out you didn't know before?
23. What types of text features were in your book? (charts, maps, bold print, text boxes, diagrams, etc.) How were they helpful?
24. When was your book published?
25. Does your book have an index, table of contents or glossary? How could they be helpful to you?

Upper School (7th/8th) Reading Discussion Questions

Fiction

Ask BEFORE reading:

1. Why did you choose this text? What made it seem interesting to you?
2. What do you expect is going to happen? Why?
3. What do you think will be the character's motivation? Why are they doing to do what they're going to do?
4. What do you know about the setting (the time and place)? Have you been anywhere similar, or know about it from other places?

Ask DURING reading:

1. What do you think the theme might be? Remember, the theme is NOT a single word/topic. It's what the author is saying about that single word or topic.
2. What point of view does the author use? What do we know about the storyteller?
3. Do any of the characters remind you of people from real life? Friends, family, celebrities. Could you create a movie cast for this book?
4. Can you connect with any of the characters on a personal level? Have you ever felt the same way they have? Or been in a similar situation?

Ask AFTER reading:

1. Compare/contrast this book to something we read in school, or another text you've read. What about movies or shows?
2. Where have you seen this same plot before? If you can't think of one, dig deeper. There's always a similar story out there.
3. What would you change about this story? What parts did you want to know more about and which did you want to read less about? Would you change the character?
4. What questions do you still have about this book?

Nonfiction

(These questions can mostly be used during any stage of reading; before, during, or after)

1. What is the purpose of this piece of writing? Is it teaching? Persuading?
2. What is the author's position on the topic? How do you think they feel about their topic?
3. What is the author's credibility? What makes them qualified to write it? Is it a scientific article written by a football player?
4. Who is the target audience? Who does the author expect to read this article? Why are they writing it to that audience?
5. What evidence does the author use to prove their point?
6. How do you feel about the author's point? Do you agree or disagree? Why?
7. What would you change about the way the author presented the information? Was it clear and easy to understand?
8. What information was already familiar to you? How much did you know about this topic?
9. What was the most interesting fact you learned?
10. How could you apply what you learned to your life?